

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 02584 070804Z  
ACTION DOE-15

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11 OES-07 SP-02  
SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 A-01 OPR-02 CPR-01  
SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 /130 W  
-----033388 080509Z /21

R 070658Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2906  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 2584

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OVIP ECON ENRG TECH PARM AS  
SUBJECT: VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT - ENERGY R&D COOPERATION

REF: (A) STATE 079788, (B) STATE 070307, (C) CANBERRA 2283,  
(D) CANBERRA 02399, (E) CANBERRA 02438 (NOTAL),  
(F) STATE 088681 (NOTAL), (G) CANBERRA 02476

1. EMBASSY NOTES REFTEL (F) (STATE 088681) CONCERNING DOE'S  
APRIL SIXTH ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROGRAM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF LOW  
ENRICHMENT FUEL FOR RESEARCH REACTORS QUOTE A PROGRAM TO  
PERMIT DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN RESEARCH REACTORS TO BE FUELED  
WITH NUCLEAR MATERIAL OF LESSER WEAPON PROLIFERATION POTENTIAL  
THAN NOW IN USE IS UNDERWAY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY. END  
QUOTE.

2. EMBASSY FURTHER NOTES THAT DOE IS ADVISING OPERATORS OF  
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PAGE 02 CANBER 02584 070804Z

RESEARCH REACTOR FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD OF ITS  
DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND IS SOLICITING THEIR  
COOPERATION IN THE PROGRAM AND THAT DOE PLANS TO MAKE THE  
RESULTS OF ITS DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS AVAILABLE TO OTHER NATIONS.

3. OF COURSE, URANIUM AND URANIUM DEVELOPMENTS HAVE BEEN A  
VERY SENSITIVE SUBJECT IN AUSTRALIA FOR YEARS. NEVERTHELESS,

AS OUTLINED IN REFTEL (G) AUSTRALIA'S CURRENT THINKING ON URANIUM AND NUCLEAR POWER DEVELOPMENT IS NOW OUT IN THE OPEN AND, AS THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PUBLICLY STATED, A COMPREHENSIVE LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE TO IMPLEMENT THIS POLICY WILL SOON BE PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT. THUS, ALTHOUGH AUSTRALIA CURRENTLY HAS ONLY ONE RESEARCH REACTOR AT LUCAS HEIGHTS IN NEW SOUTH WALES OUTSIDE OF SYDNEY, THE EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT IT MAY BE A FURTHER ADDITIONAL SIGNAL OF AUSTRALIAN-AMERICAN R&D COOPERATION IF THE VICE PRESIDENT COULD PRESENT A PACKAGE TO THE AUSTRALIANS OF INITIAL FINDINGS AS WELL AS PLANS OVER THE FIVE YEAR TEN MILLION DOLLAR PROGRAM. IT IS OUR VIEW THAT THE EMPHASIS (REFTEL F) ON THIS PROGRAM IMPLEMENTING PRESIDENT CARTER'S AIM OF REDUCING THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE USE AND TRANSPORTATION OF HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM WHILE MAINTAINING U.S. COMMITMENTS TO SUPPLY RESEARCH REACTOR FUEL WOULD SET WELL WITH THE AUSTRALIANS.

4. THE FORM AND SUBSTANCE OF SUCH A PRESENTATION (AND ANY POSSIBLE ANNOUNCEMENT) OFFERS THE POSSIBILITY OF LEAVING THE INITIATIVE TO THE AUSTRALIANS IN TERMS OF HOW THIS MAY BE HANDLED HERE OUTSIDE OF THE GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT DIALOGUE. ALSTON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** VICE PRESIDENT, RESEARCH, INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY, BRIEFING MATERIALS, VISITS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 79788, 78 STATE 70307, 78 CANBERRA 2283, 78 CANBERRA 2399, 78 CANBERRA 2438, 78 STATE 88681  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT - ENERGY R&D COOPERATION  
**TAGS:** OVIP, ECON, ENRG, TECH, PARM, AS, (MONDALE, WALTER F)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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